Washington, DC – In response to news reported today by the Associated Press that nearly two dozen Veterans Affairs officials who received lucrative performance bonuses sat on the performance review boards that determined the bonuses, Congressman John Hal (D-NY19) released the following statement: "Veterans aren't members of the boards that decide their own disability claims, but top VA executives get to sit on the performance review board that awards them \$33,000 bonuses. This is one more example of the VA's flawed approach to 'pay for performance.' I'd like to know what kind of bonuses these executives would receive if veterans themselves had a chance to vote on them."

-30-